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DESPITE SOMEWHAT NEGATIVE FIRST FRENCH PUBLIC REACTION CUBAN MATTER, HAVE LEARNED FOLLOWING AS OF POSSIBLE INTEREST: FOREIGN OFFICE PRESS SPOKESMAN IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION TOLD RESPONSIBLE NATO JOURNALIST THAT FRANCE WAS SOLIDLY WITH US IN CUBAN AFFAIR, ASSUMING THAT PRESIDENT HAD GOOD AND SUFFICIENT REASON FOR HIS COURSE OF ACTION.

HOWEVER, FO RELUCTANT TO MAKE ANY PUBLIC STATEMENT AS IT CONSIDERS BERLIN TOO MUCH PART OF PICTURE AND IS WARY BECAUSE OF DIFFERENCES IN US AND FRENCH APPROACH TO THAT PROBLEM.

FINLETTER

JTC

NOTE: Advance copies to EUR and SS 10-23-62 CWO-M

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